



Volume 2, Issue 6

Ouranophantor

June 2019

A Newsletter of St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church



St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church

733 S. Ashland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60607

www.stbasilchicago.org



Church Office: info@stbasilchicago.org

Rev. Fr. Dimitri Tobias, *Proistamenos*

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Parish Council President:

Jayme Schenk

Worship Hours

Sundays: Orthros 8:15 a.m. followed by Divine Liturgy
Weekdays: Divine Liturgy 6:30 a.m.
Esperinos: For Major Feasts 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Paraklesis Service 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 9, 2019

- + Sunday School Graduation/Graduation Sunday
- + Sunday School Frappe & Lemonade fundraiser for the Children's Medical fund in Philoptochos Hall following Divine Liturgy
- + Ice Cream Social for Sunday School Students in Philoptochos Hall following Divine Liturgy

Thursday, June 13, 2019

- + St. Basil Trivia Night
- + Billy Goat Tavern 1535 W. Madison, Chicago at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

- + St. Basil Golf Outing
- + 19110 S. Ridgeland, Tinely Park at 9:00 a.m.

We welcome new families to our parish.

Now is the time to reach out to your loved ones who have fallen away for whatever reason and bring them back to church. Now is the time to share your faith with others. Together we must grow. Together we must build the Body of Christ. Invite someone to a service or to a church event. We have one of the friendliest communities in the Archdiocese.

Let us go out so that they will know we are Christians by our love.

Follow on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Basil-Greek-Orthodox-Church-476775679041438/>

Sacraments and Blessings

40-Day Blessings:

May 19, 2019

Angeliki

daughter of

Bill and Ann Toliopoulos

Baptisms:

May 25, 2019

Leonardo

Son of

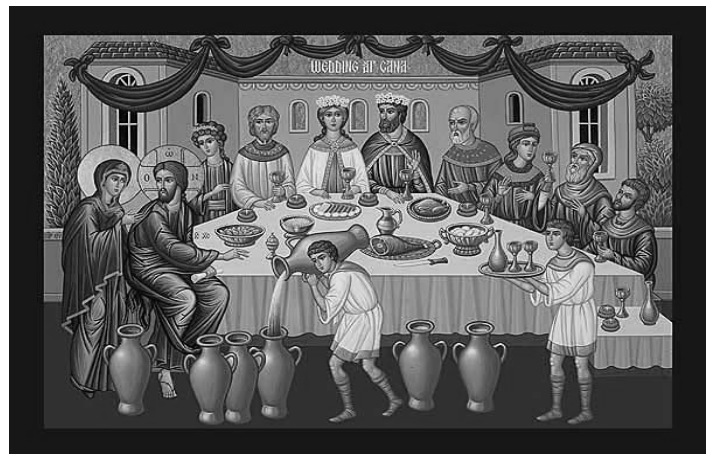
Radoslaw and Olena Pietruczuk

Godparent: Martyna Pietruczuk

Chrismations:



Weddings:



Funerals:

May 1, 2019

Maren Karras

May 10, 2019

Dr. Constantine Tatooles

May 24, 2019

Charles Katsoulis

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Father Dimitri's Message



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we celebrate Pentecost and the descent of the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the Holy Spirit, the third “person” of the Godhead and we commemorate the Holy Spirit’s power to “make the fisherman wise and through them illumine the whole world.” This is the “Seal and the Gift” of the Holy Spirit we receive through Chrismation, my brothers and sisters. This is what unites us all to the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, for it is the Spirit that moves the Church to Christ through us. While the Holy Spirit may push non-Orthodox towards good deeds and

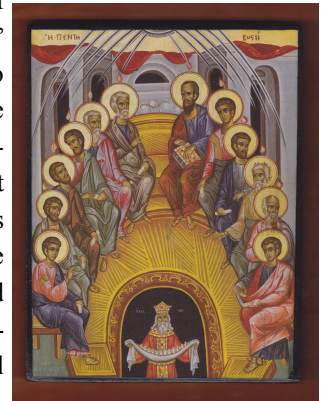
Christ, the Spirit moves *inside of us*. This fulfills the words of Christ in John Chapter 4:14 “But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

Thus, it is the Holy Spirit that has become the fruit of prayer and fasting that Jesus Christ mentions in Mark 9:29. Recall the story of the demon possessed boy.

“So He [Jesus Christ] asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?”



And he said, “From childhood. ²² And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”



The fire and water are the chief tools used by the evil one to *destroy us*. Fire is our passions. Picture a candle with a flame out of control. It will melt the wax quickly and burn up everything. These passions are gluttony, sloth, wrath, greed, lust, envy, and the most deadly of all, pride. Any one of these can spiral out of control to destroy us. Water is the cares of this world that seek to drown us in worry, stress, and fear. These can only be cast out through prayer and fasting.

Casting out calls to mind emptying a glass of water. What do we then fill the glass with so that we will not be like the poor soul Jesus mentions in Matthew 12:43-45?

⁴³ “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. ⁴⁴ Then he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when he comes, he finds *it* empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation.”

Casting out the impure passions is not enough. We must fill the house (glass of water) with something else so that there is no room for the demons to return. We must fill it with the fruits of the Holy Spirit. “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness . . .” (Galatians 5:22). These fruits can only be acquired through prayer and fasting. It is no coincidence that Paul combats the seven deadly sins with these virtues. If we acquire these we will escape judgment, for “against such there is no law.”

If we fill ourselves with the Holy Spirit we will have that water welling up to eternal life. We will be filled with courage, power from on high, and divine knowledge. “Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit” (Mark 13:11); and “But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you” (John 14:26).



The Holy Spirit is and has always been the antithesis of the destructive **fire and water**. “By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night” (Exodus 13:21). It can be understood why, in the Holy Scriptures, the Holy Spirit has appeared as fire.

1. The Burning Bush (Exodus 3:2)
2. The Tower of Flame leading the Israelites (Exodus 13:21)
3. The Fire of Elijah (1 King 18:38)
4. The Tongues of Fire over the Apostles (Acts of the Apostles 2:2)
5. The revealing Fire (1 Corinthians 3:11-15)



And as Water

1. The tower of cloud leading the Israelites (Exodus 3:2)
2. As a water for the thirsty (Isaiah 44:3)
3. As a well unto eternal life (John 4:14)
4. As the cloud on Mt. Tabor at the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–9, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36)
5. As the cloud carrying the Savior up at Ascension (Acts of the Apostles 1:9)

“The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit” (John 3:8).

Let us fill the measure of our Baptism, for we were Baptized in Water and Spirit. Let us acquire through prayers and fasting the sweet fruits of the Holy Spirit. Let us be full of Him, that we can take on the attributes of Holy Fire so that we will not be burned in the Last Day, but be partakers in Divinity. Let us, like the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be united in love and concord. Let us be one even as they are one.

“God became man, so that man could become like God...” - St. Athanasios

I remain your servant in Christ,

Fr. Dimitri Tobias, *Proistamenos*

Parish Council Update

By Venus Campanelli

Dear Parishioners of St. Basil,

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is risen!

We had a wonderful first weekend in May. The Greek parade on Halsted Street was a huge success. The St. Basil float was filled with parishioners along with quite a few families who walked alongside the float. We are now gearing up for our 4th Annual Trivia Night on Thursday, June 13, at the Billy Goat Tavern. If you don't have your team together yet, now is the time to do it.

Now that the weather is starting to warm up, you might want to get your golf clubs out and start getting ready for our golf outing on July 10, at the Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park. This is one of our star events of the year. Even if you don't golf, come out and join us for dinner. This is a great event.

Venus Campanelli,
Parish Council Member

Philoptochos Update

By Nichole Kourvas Drimonas

Hello Parishioners!

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is risen!

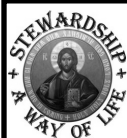
On May 8, elections were held for the new Philoptochos executive board. I would like to congratulate my fellow board members and wish everyone a great term. I am looking forward to leading this wonderful group of ladies as the new president. A special note to Vana Kikos who did a great job leading us as President for the past two years. We thank you, Vana.

Philoptochos will be hosting a Loukoumades Sunday on June 23, and we hope to see you all there. Interested in learning how to make this yummy Greek treat? Please join us in the kitchen.

We will be taking a break from meetings for the summer but continuously need help with different events and we encourage everyone to stay in touch. If you would like more information about Philoptochos, please speak to one of our members or contact the church office at 312-243-3738.

Happy Summer!

Nichole Kourvas Drimonas,
Philoptochos President



Stewardship Update

By Maria-Kanella Koper



Registration for 2019 is still underway. You can sign up at <http://www.stbasilchicago.org/our-parish/stewardship/> or pick up a pamphlet at the pangari. We are looking forward to an exciting and prosperous year.

2019 Snapshot (as of May 30, 2019)

<u>Stewards</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Collected</u>
155	\$205,179	\$108,509

We are still looking for new members to join the stewardship team who are interested in helping grow the engagement of parishioners and new members at St. Basil. Stewardship Ministry meetings will be announced in the weekly bulletin. Please join us, we'd love to have you. If you are interested in being part of the team, please contact Maria-Kanella Koper at mariakkoper@gmail.com.

Would you like to be a guest writer for the Stewardship section of the monthly newsletter? We'd love to hear why you love Saint Basil's church and our faith. Please contact Maria-Kanella if you're interested.

Saint Basil Stewardship Ministry wants to hear from you. Have any questions, comments, ideas, or feedback? Let us know how we're doing so that we can better serve our church.

Have you become a steward of St. Basil's? Visit our website at www.stbasilchicago.org and click on "Stewardship" to learn more, or contact the church office at 312-243-3738 for additional information.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matt. 6:21)

Dress a Girl Ministry

By Dorothy Bezemes and Helene Frankos

Although there have been no articles submitted in the last few months, we want to go on record that our Philoptochos Dress a Girl Around the World Ministry has been working and preparing for our 7th Annual Metropolis-Wide Sew-a-thon, which will be held on Saturday, November 2. Please mark your calendars, and we invite everyone to participate. Watch the Sunday bulletin for notices of upcoming workshops.

Recently, a missionary hand-delivered 76 dresses to Colombia. We look forward to hearing from her and hopefully she will also have pictures to share.

With sisterly love,
Dorothy and Helene

Sunday School

By Jennifer Georgopoulos

The 2018-2019 St. Basil Sunday School year has almost come to an end. The Sunday school graduation will take place on June 9, 2019, immediately following Divine Liturgy. We want to thank Fr. Dimitri, teachers, parents, and students for all their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to our St. Basil graduates which include Michael Chioros, Tom Georgopoulos, Amelia Bezanis, and Angela Bezanis. We had a wonderful year together.

The students will sell frappe for \$5 and lemonade for \$2 to raise money for the Children's Medical Fund on June 9 in the Philoptochos Hall. Also, there will be an ice cream social for the Sunday School students on June 9, immediately following Divine Liturgy. We are excited for these great events.

Below are some ideas and helpful websites to refer to over the summer months to continue your child's religious education.

www.goreligiousedchicago.org/ contains current and past issues of *The Faith* (Orthodox Faith for Teens).

www.goarch.org/ is a wonderful resource filled with valuable information. Check it out.

www1.antiochian.org/christianeducation/letusaattend presents the weekly Gospel readings, including modified lessons for appropriate age levels.

Praxis magazine is a publication of the Department of Religious Education, and the magazine addresses topics about religious education, spiritual formation, and practical applications of our faith. There is also a section dedicated to family care.

Parents you can also take a family field trip to the St. John Chrysostomos Monastery in Wisconsin. Another idea would include reading the text *Blueprints for the Little Church — Creating an Orthodox Home* by the authors Caleb Shoemaker and Elissa Bjeletich. The text provides practical ideas and encouragement for incorporating the primary practices of Orthodox spirituality into your life and homes. The text is a quick and motivational read.

Parents please continue to attend Divine Liturgy over the summer months.

Any questions regarding the Sunday school program please contact Jennifer Georgopoulos at jenspalla75@sbcglobal.net.



My Journey to Orthodoxy

Christos Anesti!

My entry into Orthodoxy has had a long time coming — not that I really knew that four or five years ago. I remember my first experiences with the church were overwhelming. The differences in language and customs were shocking for this Michigander of Irish and German descent. However, attending more services, reading more history, and becoming more familiar with the culture allowed me to start seeing past the church for the Church.

St. Basil's was instrumental to this change. I started attending liturgies here with Leia, now my fiancée, shortly after moving to Chicago for graduate school. After attending a couple of liturgies with her, there came a day when she was not able to make it and I fretted over what to do because I had never been to a Divine Liturgy without her, let alone by myself. I ended up taking a bus to church. When I accepted antidoron, Fr. Panteleimon welcomed me, saying he knew I was new (and Catholic) and directed me to Lambros. I accompanied him downstairs to coffee hour and was taken aback by how friendly everyone was to me, a stranger. Some parishioners even offered me — again, a total stranger — a ride home when they saw me waiting by the bus stop. The warmth of St. Basil's made me comfortable coming alone because I knew I would not be alone once I arrived. Having spent more time here, I can say with confidence that the kindness I received is not born out of some sense of obligation for philoxenia but from genuine love.

With time, I grew to more fully appreciate the age and traditions of the Church. When returning to Catholic churches for holidays with my mother, I realized how much I missed Orthodoxy. I was surrounded by people, but I felt lonely for some reason. Not too long into the liturgy, I realized who I felt like I was missing — our forefathers and brethren, the saints. I have never felt as connected to the Church Triumphant as I have in Orthodoxy through their images, stories, and writings. At their core, modern problems were once ancient problems and I believe that the wisdom of the Church and all her saints can help guide us down the right path.

Thank you all,

Corey Kennelly



Prison Ministry

By Steve and Pat Cole

Celebrating Pascha at Indiana State Prison

On May 4, we celebrated the Pascha liturgy for the second time in 2019, this time not at Basil Church, but with the St. Moses the Ethiopian Orthodox Christian community at Indiana State Prison in Michigan City. We were invited by one of the inmates there who we have corresponded with for several years, but we weren't sure what to expect. But once we passed a security procedure similar to the TSA screening, went through several gates separating the main building from the prison chapel, and the priest and more than 20 prisoners entered, we found ourselves at home, among a congregation of other Orthodox Christians.

The service was beautiful in its own way, though everything was spartan. It was a far cry from the services at most Orthodox churches. The altar servers were inmates, and two of the men and the Presbytera did some chanting. The "chapel" was actually an auditorium like one you might see in a high school, with a big stage and rows of mounted chairs. Icons were set up and then taken down after the liturgy. All of the key elements of the Pascha liturgy were present: the spreading of the Lord's light from parishioner to parishioner, the shouts of "Christ is risen," the responses, "Indeed He has risen," the singing of the Paschal hymn, the reading of Epistle and Gospel passages, a sermon, the Great Entrance, the Consecration of the Holy Gifts, Communion, and the sharing of the antidoron after the dismissal. As at our church, we enjoyed fellowship after the liturgy—minus the cake and coffee.

Yet some things stood out about this celebration. Before the actual service began, Fr. Paul Martin of Annunciation and St. Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church in New Buffalo, Michigan, had everyone gather around in a circle as he demonstrated and explained the preparation of the Eucharist. This is where the living and the dead are remembered in prayer. Father explained that he involved the men so that they could include their own living and dead in the prayers. Most moving about being among this community of Christian men was seeing their devotion to our Lord. All of the liturgy participants responded Lord Have Mercy, To Thee O Lord, and Amen, not leaving it to only the chanters, something Father Dimitri has suggested that we do at St. Basil. Most importantly, for three hours these men were free to practice their faith. They are all Orthodox Christians, most of whom were baptized while participating in the St. Moses community.

The St. Moses Ethiopian Orthodox Christian community was started in 2003 under the leadership of Fr. Philip Drennan, from Holy Resurrection Antiochian Orthodox Church in Hobart, Indiana. Membership in this community at the Indiana State Prison reached its highest at 85, decreasing as men were transferred to other Indiana prisons. One of those prisons, Wabash Valley Correctional, also has an active Orthodox community that the St. Basil prison ministry is in contact with. When our parish got new liturgy books, we sent them several of our old ones for use in their services.

Three or four priests from surrounding Orthodox parishes share in the celebration of the liturgy weekly on a rotating basis. Peter Bylen, an Orthodox layman, is a liaison between the clergy, the prison, and visitors.

The Indiana State Prison is a maximum security prison that houses up to 2,044 residents. Although none of the original structures stand, the facility was established in 1860. It is old and dark, and the cells are small. Cell houses are hot in the summer and cold in the winter. A cell house is basically a shell of a building with a network of four to five tiers with rows of 40 to 50 cells on each side. The oldest standing cell house was built in 1906, and the most recent housing units are converted warehouses built in the 1970s, housing about 700 "honor" offenders in dormitory-style quarters. The prison is surrounded by imposing 20-foot walls, razor wire, and ten towers.

The St. Basil prison ministry hopes to organize another visit to the Indiana State Prison again this fall. If you would be interested in attending, contact Pat or Steve Cole at 773-252-8254 or 312-493-4063.



Fr. Paul Martin (top row center) and the St. Moses the Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Community at Indiana State Prison.

Strategic Planning Retreat

By Melita Green and Maria-Kanella Koper

St. Basil was represented at the three-day Metropolis Strategic Planning Retreat by Maria-Kanella Koper and Melita Green in May 2019. Both have been participating on the welcoming, outreach, and evangelism subcommittee in the Strategic Plan development phase. Sixteen action plan goals, objectives, and timetables were reviewed, discussed, edited, and finalized by the nearly 100 participants attending from throughout the Metropolis.

The Strategic Plan will be presented at the Clergy Laity Retreat on Friday, September 27, 2019, by Metropolitan Nathanael. His Eminence was present during the May retreat, offering his guidance and support for this important process. He encouraged us not to be afraid of change, but to embrace the future with renewed commitment to our Church.

The Strategic Plan implementation phase will begin after the Clergy Laity Retreat. His Eminence encouraged participation as the whole Metropolis comes together to work on addressing our most critical challenges and opportunities. The Strategic Plan is focused on helping our parishes, and His Eminence wants every voice to be heard. More information can be found on the Metropolis website, <http://Chicago.goarch.org/strategic-planning>. You may register to participate at this site.



St. Tryphon Garden Ministry

By Marina Arvanitis

Although winter has been hanging on, our parish garden spring flowers have still managed to push through. Thank you to Lambros Peroulas for all his hard work getting the gardens cleaned and ready for Holy Week. If you would like to volunteer with the St. Tryphon Garden Ministry this spring or summer by watering, weeding, planting, etc., please contact Marina Arvanitis at marvanitis@uwalumni.com.



St. John the Almsgiver Ministry

By Marina Arvanitis

On the final Sunday of Lent 2019, the St. John the Almsgiver Ministry assembled another 30 Survival Packs for spring and summer. Each pack includes the following items:

Spring & Summer Survival Pack Items	
Jewel gift card - \$10	Comb
CTA single-transit ticket	Band-Aids
White T-Shirt	Hand wipes ('Wet Ones' pocket-size singles)
Pair of White tube socks	Granola bars
Toothbrush and Travel-sized toothpaste	Bottled water

Thank you to all who contributed items to the packs, and to our Sunday School students who did the packing. If you would like to contribute money or items to create more packs, please contact Marina Arvanitis at marvanitis@uwalumni.com, who can update you on the ministry's current needs.

St. Basil Junior Olympics 2019



St. Basil Upcoming Events

**ST. BASIL CHURCH
HOSTS 4th ANNUAL**



TRIVIA NIGHT

DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 13
LOCATION: BILLY GOAT INN, 1535 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO, IL
TIME: 7PM – 9PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM)
TRIVIA STARTS PROMPTLY AT 7PM

TEAMS OF 4 TO 6 - \$40/PERSON
PRICE INCLUDES OPEN BAR (WELL DRINKS AND BEER), ENTIRE FOOD MENU, AND DESSERT (OPEN BAR FROM 6:45PM TO 8:45PM)

PRIZES FOR TOP 3 TEAMS
REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.STBASILCHICAGO.ORG/TRIVIA
(TEAM CAPTAINS CAN REGISTER THEIR TEAMS ONLINE WITH TEAM MEMBER NAMES; EACH INDIVIDUAL CAN PAY SEPARATELY WITH TEAM NAME)
QUESTIONS? CONTACT ST. BASIL AT (312) 243-3738 OR INFO@STBASILCHICAGO.ORG

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 10, 2019

**St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church
Golf Outing**



Odyssey Country Club
19110 S Ridgeland Ave.
Tinley Park, IL

\$135 Includes:
18 Holes of Golf
Breakfast
Lunch
Dinner
Open Bar




FOR MORE INFO
CALL
(312) 243-3738

\$60 Includes:
Dinner
Open Bar

**ST. BASIL CHURCH OUTING TO THE
CHICAGO CUBS**

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019 • 7:05pm



CHICAGO CUBS VS ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

\$50 / person

Come out for a wonderful night of baseball, fun, and fellowship!

Tickets are located in the lower deck and can be purchased online at www.stbasilchicago.org/cubs or after church.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ST. BASIL AT (312) 243-3738 OR info@stbasilchicago.org.

Let's Make a St. Basil "Steward"

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If you are a regular user of Amazon, this is a simple way to help our church, *with no additional cost for the things you would normally buy on Amazon.*

To make St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church, Chicago, IL your charitable organization of choice, on your phone or computer browser (you will not be able to use your Amazon Shopping app.):

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage?q=St.+Basil+Greek+Orthodox+Church>
2. Sign into **Amazon Smile** with your same username and password as you would to Amazon.
3. Select **St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church, Chicago IL**

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St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church

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4. Whenever purchasing from Amazon, make sure you buy your items from [Smile.Amazon.Com](https://smile.amazon.com) (you will not need to select your charity again when you sign in).

Encourage your friends and family to make St. Basil Church their charity of choice.

For more information call Vicky Crosby at the St. Basil office, 312-243-3738 or Steve Cole, 312-493-4063.

*The Faithful Stewards and Friends of the Holy Metropolis of Chicago
are cordially invited to an Open House on the occasion of the*
Feast Day of the Holy Apostle Bartholomew
Patron Saint of
Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago



Date

Monday, June 10

Time

Great Vespers: 7:00 p.m.

Open House Reception:
Following Vespers

Location

St. Nectarios
Greek Orthodox Church
133 South Roselle Road
Palatine, IL 60067

Date

Tuesday, June 11

Time

Orthros: 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 a.m.
Luncheon: Following Liturgy

Location

Annunciation
Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1017 North LaSalle Drive
Chicago, IL 60610

Complimentary Valet Parking

**Please visit chicago.goarch.org/hands-of-mercy
and consider making a donation to the
Metropolis of Chicago Hands of Mercy Giving Campaign.**

Coffee Hour Ministry

The Coffee Hour Ministry at St. Basil allows parishioners the opportunity to host coffee hour twice a month. It's a great way to get involved and promote fellowship at St. Basil while getting to know one another better.

We still have a few open dates for 2019 and are looking for volunteers to either host a coffee hour or participate in one of our potluck luncheons with a team of other parishioners. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office at 312-243-3738.

We thank everyone who has volunteered to host a coffee hour in 2019.

May 17, 2019

Coffee Hour hosted by AHEPA

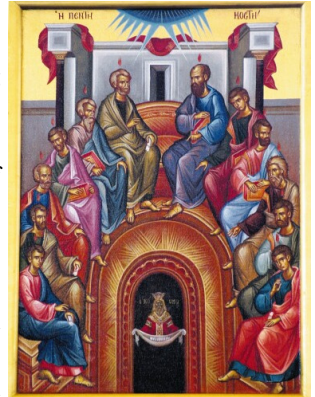


Sunday, June 2	Coffee Hour Ministry: Rouches Family
Sunday, June 9	Coffee Hour: Philoptochos
Sunday, June 16	Coffee Hour Ministry: Prison Ministry
Sunday, June 23	Coffee Hour: Philoptochos
Sunday, June 30	Coffee Hour: Philoptochos

June 16 — Pentecost

After the Saviour's Ascension into the Heavens, the eleven Apostles and the rest of His disciples, the God-loving women who followed after Him from the beginning, His Mother, the most holy Virgin Mary, and His brethren—all together about 120 souls returned from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. Entering into the house where they gathered, they went into the upper room, and there they persevered in prayer and supplication, awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit, as their Divine Teacher had promised them. In the meanwhile, they chose Matthias, who was elected to take the place of Judas among the Apostles.

Thus, on this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, the tenth day after the Ascension and the fiftieth day after Pascha, at the third hour of the day from the rising of the sun, there suddenly came a sound from Heaven, as when a mighty wind blows, and it filled the whole house where the Apostles and the rest with them were gathered. Immediately after the sound, there appeared tongues of fire that divided and rested upon the head of each one. Filled with the Spirit, all those present began speaking not in their native tongue, but in other tongues and dialects, as the Holy Spirit instructed them.



The multitudes that had come together from various places for the feast, most of whom were Jews by race and religion, were called Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and so forth, according to the places where they dwelt. Though they spoke many different tongues, they were present in Jerusalem by divine dispensation. When they heard that sound that came down from Heaven to the place where the disciples of Christ were gathered, all ran together to learn what had taken place. But they were confounded when they came and heard the Apostles speaking in their own tongues. Marvelling at this, they said one to another, "Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?" But others, because of their foolishness and excess of evil, mocked the wonder and said that the Apostles were drunken.

Then Peter stood up with the eleven, and raising his voice, spoke to all the people, proving that that which had taken place was not drunkenness, but the fulfilment of God's promise that had been spoken by the Prophet Joel: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that I shall pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy" (Joel 2:28), and he preached Jesus of Nazareth unto them, proving in many ways that He is Christ the Lord, Whom the Jews crucified but God raised from the dead. On hearing Peter's teaching, many were smitten with compunction and received the word. Thus, they were baptized, and on that day about three thousand souls were added to the Faith of Christ.

Such, therefore, are the reasons for today's feast: the coming of the All-holy Spirit into the world, the completion of the Lord Jesus Christ's promise, and the fulfilment of the hope of the sacred disciples, which we celebrate today. This is the final feast of the great mystery and dispensation of God's incarnation. On this last, and great, and saving day of Pentecost, the Apostles of the Saviour, who were unlearned fishermen, made wise now of a sudden by the Holy Spirit, clearly and with divine authority spoke the heavenly doctrines. They became heralds of the truth and teachers of the whole world. On this day they were ordained and began their apostleship, of which the salvation of those three thousand souls in one day was the comely and marvellous first fruit.

Some erroneously hold that Pentecost is the "birthday of the Church." But this is not true, for the teaching of the holy Fathers is that the Church existed before all other things. In the second vision of The Shepherd of Hermas we read: "Now brethren, a revelation was made unto me in my sleep by a youth of exceeding fair form, who said to me, 'Whom thinkest thou the aged woman, from whom thou receivedst the book, to be?' I say, 'The Sibyl.' 'Thou art wrong,' saith he, 'she is not.' 'Who then is she?' I say, 'The Church,' saith he. I said unto him, 'Wherefore then is she aged?' 'Because,' saith he, 'she was created before all things; therefore is she aged, and for her sake the world was framed.'" Saint Gregory the Theologian also speaks of "the Church of Christ ... both before Christ and after Christ" (PG 35:1108-9). Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus writes, "The Catholic Church, which exists from the ages, is revealed most clearly in the incarnate advent of Christ" (PG 42:640). Saint John Damascene observes, "The Holy Catholic Church of God, therefore, is the assembly of the holy Fathers, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Evangelists, and Martyrs who have been from the very beginning, to whom were added all the nations who believed with one accord" (PG 96, 1357c). According to Saint Gregory the Theologian, "The Prophets established the Church, the Apostles conjoined it, and the Evangelists set it in order" (PG 35, 589 A). The Church existed from the creation of the Angels, for the Angels came into existence before the creation of the world, and they have always been members of the Church. Saint Clement, Bishop of Rome, says in his second epistle to the Corinthians, the Church "was created before the sun and moon"; and a little further on, "The Church existeth not now for the first time, but hath been from the beginning" (II Cor. 14).

That which came to pass at Pentecost, then, was the ordination of the Apostles, the commencement of the apostolic preaching to the nations, and the inauguration of the priesthood of the new Israel. Saint Cyril of Alexandria says that "Our Lord Jesus Christ herein ordained the instructors and teachers of the world and the stewards of His divine Mysteries ... showing together with the dignity of Apostleship, the incomparable glory of the authority given them ... Revealing them to be splendid with the great dignity of the Apostleship and showing them forth as both stewards and priests of the divine altars ... they became fit to initiate others through the enlightening guidance of the Holy Spirit" (PG 74, 708-712). Saint Gregory Palamas says, "Now, therefore ... the Holy Spirit descended ... showing the Disciples to be supernal luminaries ... and the distributed grace of the Divine Spirit came through the ordination of the Apostles upon their successors" (Homily 24, 10). And Saint

Sophronius, Bishop of Jerusalem, writes, "After the visitation of the Comforter, the Apostles became high priests" (PG 87, 3981B). Therefore, together with the baptism of the Holy Spirit which came upon them who were present in the upper chamber, which the Lord had foretold as recorded in the Acts, "ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days hence" (Acts 1:5), the Apostles were also appointed and raised to the high priestly rank, according to Saint John Chrysostom (PG 60, 21). On this day commenced the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by which we become "partakers of the Divine Nature" (II Peter 1:4). For before Pentecost, it is said of the Apostles and disciples only that they abode in "prayer and supplication" (Acts 1:14); it is only after the coming of the Holy Spirit that they persevered in the "breaking of bread," that is, the communion of the Holy Mysteries-"and in prayer" (Acts 2:42).

The feast of holy Pentecost, therefore, determined the beginning of the priesthood of grace, not the beginning of the Church. Henceforth, the Apostles proclaimed the good tidings "in country and town," preaching and baptizing and appointing shepherds, imparting the priesthood to them whom they judged were worthy to minister, as Saint Clement writes in his first Epistle to the Corinthians (I Cor. 42).

All foods allowed during the week following Pentecost.

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast shown forth the fishermen as supremely wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them didst draw the world into Thy net. O Befriender of man, glory be to Thee.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Once, when He descended and confounded the tongues, the Most High divided the nations; and when He divided the tongues of fire, He called all men into unity; and with one accord we glorify the All-holy Spirit.



Monday of the Holy Spirit



As it is the custom of the Church, on the day after every great Feast, to honour those through whom it came to pass our Lady on the day after the Lord's Nativity, Joachim and Anna after our Lady's Nativity, the holy Baptist the day after Theophany, and so forth, on this day we honour our God the All-holy Spirit, the Comforter promised by our Saviour to His disciples (John 14:16), Who descended upon them at holy Pentecost and guided them "into all truth" (ibid. 16:13), and through them, us.

Apolytikion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fishermen all-wise, sending upon them the Holy Spirit and, through them, netting the world. O Loving One, glory to You.

Kontakion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

When the Most High came down and confounded tongues of men (Babel), He divided the Nations. When He dispensed the Tongues of Fire, He called all to unity, and with one voice we glorify the Most Holy Spirit.

June 25 The Nativity of the Forerunner

He that was greater than all who are born of women, the Prophet who received God's testimony that he surpassed all the Prophets, was born of the aged and barren Elizabeth (Luke 1: 7) and filled all his kinsmen, and those that lived round about, with gladness and wonder. But even more wondrous was that which followed on the eighth day when he was circumcised, that is, the day on which a male child receives his name. Those present called him Zacharias, the name of his father. But the mother said, "Not so, but he shall be called John." Since the child's father was unable to speak, he was asked, by means of a sign, to indicate the child's name. He then asked for a tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And immediately Zacharias' mouth was opened, his tongue was loosed from its silence of nine months, and filled with the Holy Spirit, he blessed the God of Israel, Who had fulfilled the promises made to their fathers, and had visited them that were sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, and had sent to them the light of salvation. Zacharias prophesied concerning the child also, saying that he would be a Prophet of the Most High and Forerunner of Jesus Christ. And the child John, who was filled with grace, grew and waxed strong in the Spirit; and he was in the wilderness until the day of his showing to Israel (Luke 1:57-80). His name is a variation of the Hebrew "Johanan," which means "Yah is gracious."

Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

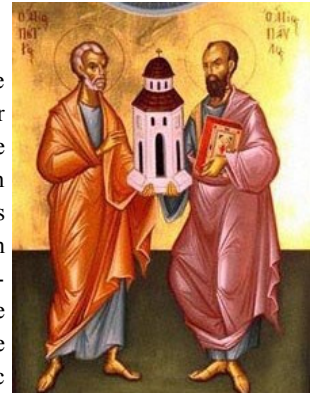
O Prophet and Forerunner of the presence of Christ, we who fervently honor you cannot worthily praise you. For by your revered and glorious birth the barrenness of your mother and the muteness of your father were unbound, and the incarnation of the Son of God is proclaimed to the world.

Kontakion in the Third Tone

She that once was barren doth today bring forth Christ's Forerunner, John, the culmination and the crown of all the Prophets. For when he, in River Jordan, laid his hand on Him Whom the Prophets preached aforetime, he was revealed as God the Word's fore-chosen Prophet, His mighty preacher, and His Forerunner in grace.

June 29 SS. Peter & Paul

The divinely-blessed Peter was from Bethsaida of Galilee. He was the son of Jonas and the brother of Andrew the First-called. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who looked at him and said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, Peter)" (John 1:42). On being raised by the Lord to the dignity of an Apostle and becoming inseparable from Him as His zealous disciple, he followed Him from the beginning of His preaching of salvation up until the very Passion, when, in the court of Caiaphas the high priest, he denied Him thrice because of his fear of the Jews and of the danger at hand. But again, after many bitter tears, he received complete forgiveness of his transgression. After the Resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit, he preached in Judea, Antioch, and certain parts of Asia, and finally came to Rome, where he was crucified upside down by Nero, and thus he ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68, leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ.



Paul, the chosen vessel of Christ, the glory of the Church, the Apostle of the Nations and teacher of the whole world, was a Jew by race, of the tribe of Benjamin, having Tarsus as his homeland. He was a Roman citizen, fluent in the Greek language, an expert in knowledge of the Law, a Pharisee, born of a Pharisee, and a disciple of Gamaliel, a Pharisee and notable teacher of the Law in Jerusalem. For this cause, from the beginning, Paul was a most fervent zealot for the traditions of the Jews and a great persecutor of the Church of Christ; at that time, his name was Saul (Acts 22:3-4). In his great passion of rage and fury against the disciples of the Lord, he went to Damascus bearing letters of introduction from the high priest. His intention was to bring the disciples of Christ back to Jerusalem in bonds. As he was approaching Damascus, about midday there suddenly shone upon him a light from Heaven. Falling on the earth, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" And he asked, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest; it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." And that heavenly voice and brilliance made him tremble, and he was blinded for a time. He was led by the hand into the city, and on account of a divine revelation to the Apostle Ananias (see Oct. 1), he was baptized by him, and both his bodily and spiritual eyes were opened to the knowledge of the Sun of Righteousness. And straightway- O wondrous transformation! - beyond all expectation, he spoke with boldness in the synagogues, proclaiming that "Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 9:1-21). As for his zeal in preaching the Gospel after these things had come to pass, as for his unabating labors and afflictions of diverse kinds, the wounds, the prisons, the bonds, the beatings, the stonings, the shipwrecks, the journeys, the perils on land, on sea, in cities, in wildernesses, the continual vigils, the daily fasting, the hunger, the thirst, the nakedness, and all those other things that he endured for the Name of Christ, and which he underwent before nations and kings and the Israelites, and above all, his care for all the churches, his fiery longing for the salvation of all, whereby he became all things to all men, that he might save them all if possible, and because of which, with his heart aflame, he continuously traveled throughout all parts, visiting them all, and like a bird of heaven flying from Asia and Europe, the West and East, neither staying nor abiding in any one place - all these things are related incident by incident in the Book of the Acts, and as he himself tells them in his Epistles. His Epistles, being fourteen in number, are explained in 250 homilies by the divine Chrysostom and make manifest the loftiness of his thoughts, the abundance of the revelations made to him, the wisdom given to him from God, wherewith he brings together in a wondrous manner the Old with the New Testaments, and expounds the mysteries thereof which had been concealed under types; he confirms the doctrines of the Faith, expounds the ethical teaching of the Gospel, and demonstrates with exactness the duties incumbent upon every rank, age, and order of man. In all these things his teaching proved to be a spiritual trumpet, and his speech was seen to be more radiant than the sun, and by these means he clearly sounded forth the word of truth and illumined the ends of the world. Having completed the work of his ministry, he likewise ended his life in martyrdom when he was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified.

Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

First in prominence among the Apostles, and teachers to the Universe, intercede to the Master of all for peace in the world and for our souls great mercy.

Kontakion in the Second Tone

O Lord, receive unto the enjoyment of Your good things and Your rest, the steadfast preachers of Godly words, the pinnacle of Your Disciples. Receive their pain and death above every sacrifice, for You alone know the hearts of men.

Apolytikion in the Third Tone

O Holy Apostles, intercede to our merciful God, that He may grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Kontakion in the Second Tone

O Lord, receive the steadfast and divinely voiced preachers, the pinnacle of Your disciples, unto their rest and the enjoyment of Your blessings. You received, above every offering, their labors and their life. You alone know what the heart holds.



Will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2019

We kindly ask all parents of children of St. Basil who will be graduating middle school, high school or college this year, to notify the church office.

We would like to honor our them and will have a special gift for all graduates. Please call the office to let us know of any graduates. Deadline to submit names is June 2, 2019.



DO YOU WANT TO GET HEALTHY?



**"100 Days of Summer"
May 26 – September 2**

**Come see our Booth During
Coffee Hour!**



St. Basil Choir

By George Panagopoulos

The choir thanks the community of St. Basil for supporting our Mother's Day fundraiser and raffle. The event was very successful and enjoyed by all. We especially want to thank the families who honored their mothers by participating. The brunch table was loaded with delicious food and drinks. A spring floral décor added color to the tables.

We want to thank the following businesses who generously donated food: Cermak Fresh Market, Hof Haus Hams, Marianos. D'amato Bakery gave us a discounted rate for dinner rolls and focaccia bread. Delicious chocolate cake was donated by Dora Barba, Claudette Hillock's aunt. Thank you to members of the choir who made cash donations and the Wyndham Galena condo donation.



Congratulations to Cindy Schroeder for winning the three-day Galena vacation. We hope you will enjoy a relaxing time in Galena country.

All proceeds benefit St. Basil hosting the 62nd Annual Church Music Conference, October 4-6, 2019.

St. Basil — 2019 Stewards

<p>A Chris & Georgia Alemis Lex & Sue Alexander Michael Angelakos William Angelos Anonymous Stella Antonoglu Marina Arvanitis & Ed Franklin Thomas & Lauren Arvanitis Leia Asimacopoulos</p> <p>B Gregory & Maria Bairaktaris Theodora Bairaktaris Katy Balabanis Andrew Bannos Dr. Robert & Dr. Sophia Sarkos-Barnes Tom & Leslie Bezanis Dorothy Bezemes John & Patoula Billiris Matthew Bills John & Dr. Christine Bishof Nick & Angie Brinias John & Cassy Brinkman</p> <p>C John & Venus Campanelli Joanne Chamis John & Eleni Chioros Chris Christides Ernest & Christine Schenk Cochanis Stephan & Patricia Patsis-Cole Maria Constantinides Pam Cosmos Thomas Couston</p> <p>D Tim & Jenel Damis Anesti & Emily Dhima Anthony Dolas Matt & Alexis Douglas Petros & Nichole Drimonas Gus Drugas Alice Ducas Amelia Duka</p> <p>F Themis & Angeline Fabiatos Martin & Elaine Fosse Charles & Rosemary Fountas Ioannis Fountas Nicholas & Vicky Fountas Zach & Kalliopi Fountas Tony & Georgia Fragale John Frangias Themis Frangos Andrea Frankos Tony & Helene Frankos</p> <p>G Nick & Jennifer Georgopoulos George Goltso Christina Gountanis Melita Green Kevin & Kathryn Gulley</p>	<p>H Sophia Haritos Arthur & Angie Harris Melanie Hillock Philip & Katherine Hiotis Willaim & Catherine Hostetler</p> <p>K Senya Kalpake Stella Kapetan Aris Kapsopoulos Demetra Karas George & Karen Karas Vasili & Allison Karas Dean & Maria Kartsimas Zarif & Maria Karwandyar Ralli Katsikas Charles & Jean Katsoulis Evan & Eleni Katsoulis Nick Katsoulis Peter Katsoulis Dr. Kenneth & Arlene Kehl Anthony & Christina Kidonakis Vana Kikos John Koliopoulos Eleni Kontalonis Ryan & Maria Kanella Koper Phyllis Koumantos John & Eugenia Kourvas Constantine & Anastasia Koutsoubas Frank Kuchuris</p> <p>L John & Anna Lambros Ekaterini Lekkas Andy Lipscomb Elias Loumakis</p> <p>M Dina Manasses Eleni Manasses Vicky Manasses Dean & Anastasia Maragos Carl & Natalie Michas Harry & Kathy Michas</p> <p>O Dr. Ben & Karina Onderdonk Jeffrey & Kalliope Osborne</p> <p>P James & Bess Pabin Demitra Panagopoulos George Panagopoulos Dimos & Angela Panousakis Rhonda Panousakis Sophia Panousakis Marice Papadakis Bette Pappas Sam Pappas Ken & Helen Paspalas-Rubenstein Lambros & Mary Peroulas Mark Phillip Katina Phillips Alexa Plesiotis Nondas & Angie Plesiotis Eleni Pontikes John & Carol Pontikes Joann Prekezes</p>	<p>R Jonathan Ramirez John Regas Robert & Irene Rohrman Anthony & Christina Rouches Demetra Rouches Sam & Christine Rousakis</p> <p>S Irene Santos Christine Saucedo Jayme Schenk Konstantinos & Marisa Schoinas Harold & Cindy Schroeder Emily Sedares Nicholas Senopoulos Panagiota Sianis Paul & Pamela Sianis Tom & Eleni Sianis Grigorios & Debra Skourletos John Stathopoulos Brian & Nicole Steinberg Kathy Stratton Irar Sweiss</p> <p>T Gerasim & Edith Tikoff Nicholas & Shari Thanas Dr. Richard & Angela Tobias Fr. Dimitri & Presvytera Mary Tobias Nick & Kristen Triandafilou George Tsagaris Maria Tsagaris Anthony Tsenes Sophia Tsilimigras George & Juliana Tziahanas</p> <p>V Catherine Valsamoulis Dee Vergos</p> <p>W Kathy Walstrom Melanie Walstrom Charles & Katherine Webster Francis & Kanella Willsey</p> <p>Z Frances Zaroyiannis Georgia Zaroyiannis Ifiyenia Zaroyiannis Kyri Zaroyiannis Melanie Zaroyiannis George & Dorothy Zimbrakos</p>
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St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church - June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy	3	4	5 7:00 pm Great Vespers of the Ascension	6 8:30 am Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri Orthros & Divine Liturgy of the Ascension	7	8
9 Graduation Sunday Sunday School Graduation & Family Sunday Girls Ministry to assist Philoptochos with Coffee Hour 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy	10 7:00 pm Great Vespers and Open House at St. Nectarios	11 Metropolitan Nathanael Name Day	12 6:00 pm Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary	13 Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri Trivia Night 6:30 pm St. Basil Trivia at Billy Goat	14 6:30 am Divine Liturgy of Prophet Elisha	15 8:30 am Orthros & Divine Liturgy of Saturday of Souls
16 PENTECOST Father's Day 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy	17	18	19 6:00 pm Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary	20 Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri	21	22
23 Sunday School Family Sunday Lecture 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy 11:30 am Summer Family Sunday - Keeping the Faith (During Summer Break)	24 6:30 am Divine Liturgy for Nativity of St. John the Baptist	25	26 6:00 pm Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary	27 Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri	28 7:00 pm "Great Vespers for Ss. Peter and Paul (at Glenview parish) "	29 8:30 am "Orthros and Divine Liturgy for Ss. Peter and Paul (at St. Peter & Paul, Glenview, IL) "Great Vespers for Holy Apostles (at Westchester parish)"
30 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy						

**ST. BASIL CHURCH
HOSTS 4th ANNUAL**



DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 13

LOCATION: BILLY GOAT INN, 1535 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO, IL

TIME: 7PM – 9PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM)

TRIVIA STARTS PROMPTLY AT 7PM

TEAMS OF 4 TO 6 - \$40/PERSON

**PRICE INCLUDES OPEN BAR (WELL DRINKS AND BEER), ENTIRE FOOD
MENU, AND DESSERT (OPEN BAR FROM 6:45PM TO 8:45PM)**

PRIZES FOR TOP 3 TEAMS

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.STBASILCHICAGO.ORG/TRIVIA

**(TEAM CAPTAINS CAN REGISTER THEIR TEAMS ONLINE WITH TEAM MEMBER
NAMES; EACH INDIVIDUAL CAN PAY SEPARATELY WITH TEAM NAME)**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ST. BASIL AT (312) 243-3738 OR INFO@STBASILCHICAGO.ORG

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 10, 2019

**St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church
Golf Outing**



**Odyssey Country Club
19110 S Ridgeland Ave.
Tinley Park, IL**

\$135 Includes:

**18 Holes of Golf
Breakfast
Lunch
Dinner
Open Bar**

\$60 Includes:

**Dinner
Open Bar**



St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church

733 South Ashland Ave.

Chicago, IL 60607